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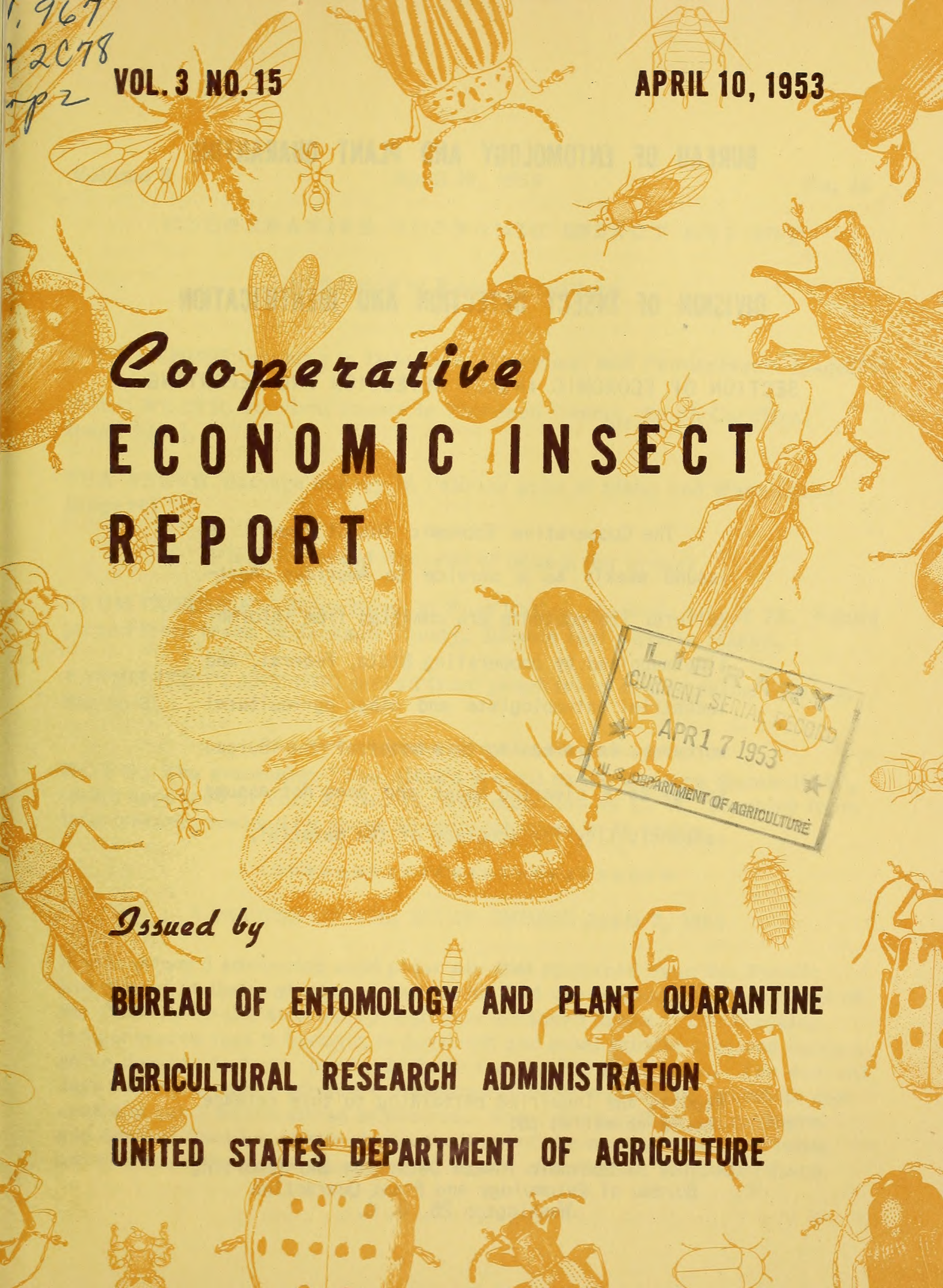

Cooperative ECONOMIC INSECT REPORT

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BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE

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BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE

DIVISION OF INSECT DETECTION AND IDENTIFICATION

SECTION OF ECONOMIC INSECT DETECTION AND REPORTING

The Cooperative Economic Insect Report is issued weekly as a service to American Agriculture. Its contents are compiled from information supplied by cooperating State, Federal, and industrial entomologists and other agricultural workers. In releasing this material the Bureau serves as a clearing house and does not assume responsibility for accuracy of the material.

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Volume 3 April 10, 1953 No. 15

COOPERATIVE ECONOMIC INSECT REPORT

Highlights of Insect Conditions

SPITTLEBUGS hatching in Delaware, Maryland and Pennsylvania (page235)

BOLL WEEVIL survival counts in Florence County, South Carolina. (page 244).

PEA WEEVIL damage survey in Palouse area of Idaho and Washington (page 241).

First Reported Records of Season (by areas)

PLUM CURCULIO - Eggs found at Fort Valley, Georgia March 25. Adults jarred from trees in Jackson County, Illinois last week in March.

TARNISHED PLANT BUG jarred from peach trees at Centralia, Illinois, March 31.

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NOTE: The summary; "The Alfalfa Weevil in the Eastern States-1952", which appeared in Vol. 3, No. 13, was compiled by C. W. Shockley from information provided by about 20 entomologists in 12 states.

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WEATHER OF THE WEEK ENDING April 7, 1953

Southeastward advancing cold polar air that appeared over the Pacific Northwest at the beginning of the period had overspread practically all of the Country by the 5th, except extreme southern areas. The freezing temperatures that it brought to northern and most middle sections caused some damage to fruit, particularly in the Pacific Northwest. The several days of cold weather slowed the advancement of vegetation, which is generally about 2 weeks ahead of normal. Some snow fell in the northern and central Rockies and in some sections of the northern Great Plains, but this soon disappeared except at higher elevations. In the northern

Great Plains, ice is out of the rivers, frost has left the soil, and vegetation is beginning to green. Temperatures for the week averaged from 1 degree to about 6 degrees colder than usual in the Pacific Northwest, northern and central Rockies, and central interior, and generally 1 degree to over 5 degrees above normal from eastern and southeastern California eastward over the extreme southern portion of the Country, and in the Atlantic States and upper Lake Region.

Precipitation occurred on about 4 days in the Pacific Northwest, on 2 days in the northern and middle Rocky Mountain Region, and was rather frequent in most northern and middle sections east of the Rockies. Generally fair, sunny weather in the Middle and South Atlantic and Gulf States favored the drying of soils and stimulated outside activities until near the end of the period when general rains overspread these areas. Total precipitation for the week was moderate to heavy over the eastern half of the country, including the eastern Great Plains, with 1 to over 3 inches in central and eastern Oklahoma, most of Arkansas, Tennessee, eastern Kentucky, northern Indiana, the southern portions of Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia, extreme northern Florida, and some adjacent areas. The amounts were mostly insufficient to materially relieve the moisture deficiency in the central and southern sections of the western Great Plains. Precipitation was light to mostly lacking west of the Continental Divide, except moderate on the north Pacific Coast. (Summary Supplied by U. S. Weather Bureau).

WEATHER BUREAU'S 30-DAY OUTLOOK
*April 1953

The Weather Bureau's 30-day outlook for April calls for temperatures to average below seasonal normals east of the Appalachians and in the Southwest. Above normal temperatures are expected over the Northern Plains and in the West Gulf States. Elsewhere temperatures are expected to average near normal. Precipitation amounts exceeding normal are predicted over most of the Great Plains, Ohio Valley, and North Atlantic States. Below normal amounts are expected in the Southwest, Southeast, and the Northern Great Lakes Region. Elsewhere about normal rainfall is indicated.

*This report released by the Weather Bureau on April 1, 1953.

A more detailed weather outlook-Average Monthly Resume and Outlook-is prepared by the Weather Bureau. To subscribe to this publication address application, with P.O. money order or check payable to Treasurer of the United States, and mail to Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. Subscription price is $4.80 per year or $2.40 for six months, postpaid; minimum subscription six months.

CEREAL AND FORAGE INSECTS

ALFALFA WEEVIL (Hypera postica) - UTAH- Infestations in alfalfa ranging upward to abundant. Adults "notching" young growth. Extremely numerous in some fields at Glendale. (G. F. Knowlton, March 27). DELAWARE - Larvae damaging alfalfa. (Late News, Univ. Del.) MARYLAND - Adults active in Anne Arundel and Harford Counties. Also found in Wicomico County. No larvae observed by April 4 (T. L. Bissell).

CLOVER LEAF WEEVIL (Hypera punctata) - DELAWARE - Occurring on alfalfa and clover. (Late News, Univ. Del.). MARYLAND - Rather common on alfalfa in Anne Arundel County and clover in Washington County. (T. L. Bissell). PENNSYLVANIA - Larvae feeding on clover in southeastern areas. (J. O. Pepper). UTAH - Causing damage in one alfalfa field in Davis County. (G. F. Knowlton).

SWEETCLOVER WEEVIL (Sitona cylindricollis) - TEXAS - Damaging several fields of seedling alfalfa in Vernon area. (Davis).

EGYPTIAN WEEVIL - ARIZONA - Still prevalent in alfalfa in most of the Yuma area. Damage more noticeable in older stands. (D. M. Tuttle).

CLOVER ROOT CURCULIO (Sitona hispidula) - MARYLAND - Numbers found in older alfalfa in Wicomico and Montgomery Counties. (T. L. Bissell).

SPITTLEBUGS (Cercopidae) - DELAWARE- Began hatching in central part of State about March 27. (Late News, Univ. Del.) MARYLAND - Hatching in Anne Arundel, Harford, Caroline, Frederick and Montgomery Counties. (T. L. Bissell). PENNSYLVANIA - Meadow spittlebug (Philaenus leucophthalmus) hatching in all southeastern counties. Control measures underway. (J. O. Pepper).

PEA APHID (Macrosiphum pisi) - DELAWARE - Continue active on alfalfa in the Smyrna-Leipsic area. MARYLAND - Small numbers on alfalfa from Wicomico to Frederick County. (T. L. Bissell). PENNSYLVANIA- Appearing on clover and alfalfa. (J. O. Pepper). TEXAS - Only light infestations on vetch in Greenville area, March 27. (Garner). WASHINGTON- Ninety-six aphids per 100 sweeps taken on alfalfa at Wawawai March 27. On April 11, 1952, 35 aphids were collected in 200 sweeps in the same field. (R. Schopp). Small colonies on volunteer vetch along roadsides at Sumner. (C. F. Doucette). UTAH - Causing severe damage to a number of alfalfa fields at West Point. (G. F. Knowlton).

GREENBUG (Toxoptera graminum) - OKLAHOMA - Minor outbreaks in northwest Oklahoma but widespread trouble is not expected. (D. E. Howell).

CUTWORMS (Phalaenidae) - OKLAHOMA - Several species active in alfalfa and small grain; control necessary in many fields. Infestations not as heavy or widespread as at this time last year. (D. E. Howell). PENNSYLVANIA - Feeding on legumes in southern areas. (J. O. Pepper).

ARMY CUTWORM (Chorizagrotis auxiliaris) - UTAH- A rather serious situation at Minersville, Milford and Beryl with need for control in numerous alfalfa fields in Beaver, Iron and Kane Counties. (G. F. Knowlton, Mar. 27).

WIREWORMS (Elateridae) - TEXAS - Infesting seed corn in Greenville area, March 27. (Garner).

BROWN WHEAT MITE (Petrobia latens) - OKLAHOMA - Control necessary in western Oklahoma but infestations not particularly serious. (D. E. Howell).

MITE ON OATS - TEXAS - Poisons being applied for control on small grains in Greenville area, March 27. (Garner).

LEAFHOPPERS (Cicadellidae) - TEXAS - Damaging numbers on some younger grain in Greenville area. Also occurring on vetch and older grain but no apparent damage. (Garner). UTAH - Clover leafhopper (Aceratagallia sanguinolenta) numerous in Iron, Beaver and Washington Counties, March 27. Dikraneura carneola numerous and causing some plant injury in many small-grain fields in Juab, Salt Lake and Utah Counties, March 23. (G. F. Knowlton).

Additional notes: KENTUCKY-LEATHERJACKETS (Tipulidae) are now present in great numbers in grass and clover fields in western Kentucky. Have completely destroyed many fields of seedling lespedeza. APHID infestations are heavy on grasses, small grains and clovers in many sections of the State. CLOVER LEAF WEEVILS are more numerous than usual. CLOVER MITES in some instances have migrated, in great numbers, into houses. (W. A. Price).

Additional notes (Cont'd) - MISSISSIPPI - Larvae of WHITE-FRINGED BEETLE (Graphognathus sp.) found damaging Irish potatoes on a property in Forrest County that was not previously known to be infested. (S. S. Sheffield).

LOUISIANA - SUGARCANE BORER (Diatraea saccharalis) - Large percentage of stages collected during the last week of March were pupae. Indications are that the first generation will be a little earlier this year tha it was the past two years. (A. L. Dugas). ARMYWORM (Pseudaletia unipuncta) - Heavy infestations on sugarcane, mostly on plant cane where winter cover crops were grown and had been turned under, in Iberia, St. Mary, Terrebonne and LaFourche Parishes. In one instance, about 30 acres of cane has been almost completely defoliated. The caterpillars were active throughout March with the generation about completed by the end of the month (A. L. Dugas). Reported on rye grass at Baton Rouge (L. D. Newsom). CORN EARWORM (Heliothis armigera) Infesting lupine on the Experimental Station farm at Baton Rouge (L. D. Newsom, March 31). MAY BEETLES - Heavy flight on night of March 31- (L. D. Newsom). PEA APHID - Heavy infestations are developing on vetch. (C. E. Smith).

Recent Important Interceptions at Ports of Entry

Living specimens of the Rhodes-grass scale (Antonina graminis) were intercepted recently on an unknown grass in the mail from Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico at Nogales, Arizona (Callaghan, Furr). This insect, which attacks grasses in many parts of the world was first found on the North American continent in Texas in 1942. It is said to cause extensive damage to Rhodes grass and carpet grass in the lower Rio Grande Valley. It also attacks perennial Sudan grass, Johnson grass, and other grasses. Numerous host plants have been listed in Texas. It was discovered in Florida in 1944 and is generally distributed along the Gulf Coast. Its interception in the mail from Culiacan is our first knowledge of its probable occurrence in western Mexico, and seems to widen the known range of the scale in North America.

FRUIT INSECTS

PLUM CURCULIO (Conotrachelus nenuphar) - GEORGIA - First eggs of season found in peach orchards near Fort Valley, March 25; earliest since 1945. (O. I. Snapp). Very few adults found in orchards in Griffin and Monticella area up to March 30. (E. F. Savage). ILLINOIS - Jarred from peach in Jackson County during last week in March - first of season. (S. C. Chandler).

Citrus Pest Activity in Florida during Fourth Week in March: Purple scale (Lepidosaphes beckii) increased sharply in all districts. Rate of hatching increasing and some crawlers settling on new leaves and fruit. Further increase expected. Florida red scale (Chrysomphalus aonidum) - small increase, not much change expected soon. Citrus red mite (Metatetranychus citri) - reduction on old leaves, but moving rapidly to new leaves. Citrus rust mite (Phyllocoptruta oleivora) decreased on leaves, increased on fruit. Six-spotted mite (Tetranychus sexmaculatus) increased sharply, injury on new leaves readily found, especially on grapefruit. Mealybug infestations are about twice as numerous for the time of year as for the last two years. Whiteflies increasing. (Pratt and Thompson).

RED-BANDED LEAF ROLLER (Argyrotaenia velutinana) - INDIANA - Spring-brood adults still active March 31 in Vincennes area. Populations continue to be light. (D. W. Hamilton).

TARNISHED PLANT BUG (Lygus lineolaris) - ILLINOIS- Jarred from peach trees at Centralia March 31. (Spray Service Report).

CITRUS THRIPS (Scirtothrips citri) - ARIZONA - Prevalent in most citrus groves. Considerable damage occurred to fall growth in some groves where control was not undertaken. Nymphs of first generation have caused some injury to spring growth. (D. M. Tuttle).

A SPIDER MITE (Tetranychus yumensis) - ARIZONA - Has appeared in scattered localities on orange and grapefruit trees on the Yuma Mesa. (D. M. Tuttle).

APHIDS (Aphidae) - NEW JERSEY - Continue abundant on untreated apple trees; mostly apple grain aphids involved. (A. J. Farley). PENNSYLVANIA Rosy apple aphid (Anuraphis roseus) hatching generally over southern half of the State. (J. O. Pepper).

Mexican Fruit Fly Trapping Records-Texas: Approximately 2,600 traps are being operated within the regulated area of Texas on a weekly basis and during the first half of March more fruit flies were trapped than for any other period this season. One hundred-thirty adult Mexican fruit flies (Anastrepha ludens), including 53 females, were taken in approximately 5,000 trap inspections. Other specimens of economic importance trapped during this period were one specimen each of A. mombinpraeoptans and A. spatulata. Twelve Mexican fruit flies were trapped in the Laredo district near the International Bridge at Zapata. These were the first specimens taken in the Laredo district this season. The increased trap results this period indicate a very high adult fruit fly population in Valley groves at this time. (L. F. Curl).

* * *

Average Percent of Peaches Injured in Illinois Orchards
Based on Harvest Survey Records

Year	Plum Curculio		Oriental	Cat-	Red Banded
	Wormy	Stung	Fruit Moth	faced	Leaf Roller
1935	-	-	22.1-	-	-
1936	-	-	3.3	-	-
1937	2.0	-	12.2	-	-
1938	4.3	-	3.7	-	-
1939	3.8	-	1.2	-	
1940				no crop	
1941	0.7	-	0.3	-	-
1942	7.2	-	1.6	11.7	-
1943	7.8	-	5.8	19.9	-
1944	1.7	-	0.9	3.8	-
1945	3.6	-	1.6	5.8	-
1946	6.0	-	5.2	12.2	-
1947	3.4	-	2.2	4.8	-
1948	4.6	-	5.2	10.7	trace
1949	4.5	9.9	2.0	9.6	3.3
1950	1.7	5.8	3.2	8.6	0.2
1951	4.8	2.4	4.4	4.1	0.1
1952	1.4	2.3	0.3	6.5	0.1-

Surveys made by S. C. Chandler

TRUCK CROP INSECTS

Vegetable Insect Situation in Winter Haven, Texas area: Aphids seriously damaging brussels sprouts. Harlequin bug (Murgantia histrionica) numerous on turnips. Thrips causing light damage to onions. Cabbage looper causing considerable damage to lettuce. Potato leaf roll reported in potatoes. Wingless May beetles attacking cucurbits. (Richardson).

FLEA BEETLES (Epitrix spp.) - SOUTH CAROLINA - Light infestations some potato plantings in Charleston area. (F. P. Cuthbert).

APHIDS ON POTATOES-SOUTH CAROLINA- Light infestation in Charleston area, but natural enemies are abundant and apparently holding population in check. (F. P. Cuthbert).

SEED-CORN MAGGOT (Hylemya cilicrura) - OKLAHOMA – More prevalent in spring spinach than at any time on record. Over 10 percent of plants in many fields in Arkansas River Valley infested. (D. E. Howell). VIRGINIA - Adults very numerous in Norfolk area. (Brubaker, Greenwood, Hofmaster).

CABBAGE CATERPILLARS - SOUTH CAROLINA - Diamondback moth (Plutella maculipennis) and imported cabbageworm (Pieris rapae) light but increasing on cabbage in Charleston area. An occasional cabbage looper (Trichoplusia ni) observed. (F. P. Cuthbert).

CABBAGE APHID (Brevicoryne brassicae) - SOUTH CAROLINA - Remains very light and apparently will not be a problem on cabbage this season in Charleston area. (F. P. Cuthbert). TEXAS - Light infestation on cabbage in Greenville area. (Garner).

Light infestations of MEXICAN BEAN BEETLE (Epilachna varivestis) and BEAN LEAF BEETLE (Cerotoma trifurcata) on beans in northwestern Florida show little development, due apparently to recent cold weather. (L. M. May).

SPIDER MITES - VIRGINIA - Building up in numbers on strawberries in Norfolk area. (Brubaker, Greenwood, Hofmaster).

CABBAGE SEEDPOD WEEVIL (Ceutorhynchus assimilis) - WASHINGTON - Adults collected on flowers of Brassica campestris at Sumner March 27. (C. F. Doucette).

LYGUS BUGS (*Lygus* spp.) - WASHINGTON - Occurring in moderate numbers on flower heads of *Brassica campestris* and on daffodil blooms at Sumner. (C. F. Doucette).

ROSE APHID (*Macrosiphum rosae*) - WASHINGTON - Considerable numbers on new growth of roses in Sumner gardens. Colonies developed throughout March. (C. F. Doucette).

SLUGS - WASHINGTON - Both the gray garden slug (*Deroceras agreste*) and the recently introduced *Arion ater* very numerous in gardens in Puyallup Valley area. About 75 percent are the introduced species. Most of these are very immature, but there has been considerable damage to emerging tips of perennials and to daffodil flowers in sheltered areas. (C. F. Doucette).

WIREWORMS (Elateridae) - FLORIDA - Attacking some newly-set fields of shade-grown tobacco in Gadsden and adjacent counties. In one instance caused 25 percent loss in stand and entire crop replanted. (Guthrie and May).

* * *

PEA WEEVIL DAMAGE SURVEY 1/

A survey has been made each year of damage caused by pea weevil (*Bruchus pisorum*) to the dry pea crops in Idaho and Washington. The results have been of value as an index of populations that have begun hibernation each fall. The data on pea weevil damage have been taken from Federal grade certificates which have been issued for most of the dry pea crop by the Grain and Seed Division of the Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, in cooperation with the College of Agriculture of the University of Idaho.

The peas in which weevils have developed to maturity are separated from the sound peas by flotation in a brine solution. Peas in which the weevil larvae entered but failed to mature cannot be separated from the sound peas by the flotation method. They are recognized by the small pin-like holes made by the larvae and are manually separated from the others. The two classes of injured peas are recorded as percentages by weight of the total sample. For the purpose of this report the term "weevil damage" is used to designate sufficient injury to a pea for it to be separated by the flotation method, whereas the term "pinhole injury"

1/ This is a continuation of a study begun by T. A. Brindley is used to refer to injury confined to mere pinholes.

Pea weevil injury and damage in the Palouse area during 1952 by this method is summarized as follows:

	Number of certificates	Percent pinhole injury	Percent weevil damage		
			Maximum	Minimum	Average
Idaho	836	0.15	48.5	0.0	2.5
Washington	670	0.04	37.0	0.0	1.7
Palouse area (weighted average)	1506	0.10	48.5	0.0	2.1

The results of this study show considerable difference in the weevil infestation in the Idaho and Washington parts of the Palouse area. The average infestation in the Washington part of the Palouse was only two-thirds that in Idaho and the pinhole damage in Washington only about one-fourth that of Idaho.

Since only one weevil develops in a pea and there is only one generation per year, the percentages of weevil damage from year to year and the total quantities of peas produced indicates the relative numbers of weevils going into hibernation. The table below shows the pea weevil damage and pinhole injury in the Palouse area as affected by winter temperatures:

Year	Acres peas harvested	Minimum temperature preceding winter	Number of samples	Percent pinhole injury	Percent weevil damage	
					Maximum	Avg.
1944	562,000	0	1895	0.29	20.6	2.8
1945	388,000	9	1913	0.66	30.6	7.3
1946	391,000	-2	2073	0.53	20.5	4.5
1947	409,000	-3	2040	0.11	10.3	1.7
1948	228,000	-2	1806	0.07	18.0	2.8
1949	259,000	-23	2017	0.03	27.2	0.8
1950	173,000	-26	2611	0.02	15.8	0.8
1951	255,000	-2	2408	0.10	23.8	1.7
1952	172,000	-19	1506	0.10	48.5	2.8

In years when minimum temperatures fall below -20degrees F., winter mortality may become an important factor. Snow cover is probably an important factor modifying the effects of low temperature. Increased or decreased acreages of peas also probably affect percentages of infestation by spreading the weevils present over larger or smaller areas of pea fields. Low minimum temperatures were apparently responsible for the low infestations during 1949 and 1950. Other factors were apparently overshadowed in this instance.

Since this period of low infestation in 1949 and 1950, the weevils have been increasing steadily and are approaching the average of this 9-year period. The mild winter weather prevailing in the Palouse up to the present indicates little winter mortality and a further increase in the numbers of weevils appearing in the fields in the spring of 1953. (R. Schopp).

COTTON INSECTS

PINK BOLLWORM (Pectinophora gossypiella) - TEXAS - Debris inspections carried on in 34 counties during the period March 1-15 resulted in the finding of 637 living pink bollworms from 8,419 bolls examined. In general, the outlook is much better than it was at this time last year due to the lesser amount of debris remaining on the soil and the lower degree of live "worms" in it; nevertheless, it appears that sufficient "worms" are present in some localities to cause heavy infestation later in the season. MEXICO - Inspections of debris in three states of northern Mexico during the period continued to show a decline in the number of surviving larvae. (L. F. Curl).

Cotton Insect Conditions in Lower Rio Grande Valley, Texas: BOLL WEEVIL reported fairly numerous in some early-planted cotton in lower part of Cameron County. Also reported from McCook and several other places in the upper Valley. Overall population very light. COTTON FLEAHOPPER beginning to appear. BOLLWORMS found in many areas. (R. D. Griffith).

Boll Weevil Ground Trash Examinations
Florence County, South Carolina

Four hundred-thirty square yards of ground trash were collected from 43 farms in Floreance County and examined for surviving boll weevils from March 10 to 30, 1953. The number of live weevils found on the various farms ranged from 0 to 32,428 per acre of surface trash. The average was 5932 weevils per acre. This figure is 94 percent of the number (6259) found in hiberantion in the fall examination of 1952 and represents a very high survival. The average number found in this spring's examination is almost 2 times the average found during the past 16 years. With the exception of 1950, it is the highest number found per acre in the spring examinations on record.

The following table shows a summary of fall and spring trash examinations made at Florence, S. C. from the spring of 1938 through the spring of 1953. (L. C. Fife).

	Fall examination		Spring examination		
Year	No. of sq. yds. examined	Live weevils per acre	No. of sq. yds. examined	Live weevils per acre	Per cent survival
1937-38	--	--	60	1775	--
1938-39	--	--	100	3582	--
1939-40	--	--	55	176	--
1940-41	--	--	100	1960	--
1941-42	--	--	100	1839	--
1942-43	160	4023	160	2995	74.4
1943-44	140	1901	140	1210	63.6
1944-45	150	4324	150	2580	59.7
1945-46	150	4840	150	2193	45.3
1946-47	--	--	100	2904	--
1947-48	170	3974	200	2710	68.2
1948-49	200	3969	200	3969	100.0
1949-50	200	10744	200	11108	100.0
1950-51	200	4816	190	2267	47.1
1951-52	200	1573	200	653	41.5
1952-53	440	6259	430	5932	94.8
Average	201	4642	158	2991	

INSECTS AFFECTING MAN AND ANIMALS

CATTLE GRUBS (Hypoderma spp.) - UTAH - Moderate to severe infestations of H. lineatum and H. bovis in nearly all parts of the State. (G. F. Knowlton, March 31). OKLAHOMA - Heel fly activity greater currently than at any time in the last five years. As many as 25 percent of animals in a pasture may be bothered at the same time. (D. E. Howell).

FOREST INSECTS

GREAT BASIN TENT CATERPILLAR (Malacosoma fragilis) - UTAH - Damage has started again on antelope brush, willow, and cottonwood in Washington County. (G. F. Knowlton, March 25).

BUCK MOTH (Hemileuca maia) - LOUISIANA - Caterpillars unusually abundant in Baton Rouge and vicinity, some nearing maturity. (C. E. Smith).

FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR (Malacosoma disstria) - LOUISIANA - Infesting shade and forest trees, especially oaks and gum in Baton Rouge and vicinity. Also reported damaging oak trees on Parkways in New Orleans, by C. P. O'Brien. (C. E. Smith).

WHITE-MARKED TUSSOCK MOTH (Hemerocampa leucostigma) - LOUISIANA - Damaging oak trees on parkways in New Orleans (C. P. O'Brien).